

Senate File 52 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 52

BY WHITING

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the assessment of fees when a public
2 defender or designee requests copies of certain documents.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 defender or designee requests copies of certain documents.

2 The bill defines "agency" to mean the judicial branch, a
3 state department or agency, the office of a county attorney, a
4 criminal or juvenile justice agency, or a political subdivision
5 of the state.

6 The bill requires that an agency furnish copies of any
7 document in the possession of the agency, at no cost, upon
8 request of the state public defender, a public defender office,
9 or an attorney or nonprofit legal organization appointed by the
10 court as a designee of the state public defender.

11 The documents to be provided under the bill include but
12 are not limited to copies of police reports, photographs,
13 grand jury transcripts, audiotapes, videotapes, transcripts
14 of audiotapes or videotapes, audio or video files on storage
15 systems, transcripts of such audio or video files on storage
16 systems, and reports prepared by the department of human
17 services.

18 The document requested must be relevant to an investigation
19 or legal representation being conducted by the public defender
20 or designee.

21 Under the bill, when a document is provided on a storage
22 system, the agency shall, upon request, include the software
23 necessary to access the storage system.